Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of the claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1 - 17 (cancelled)

Claim 18: (currently amended): An isolated linear peptide obtained from an antibiotic peptide ~~or a moiety of said linear peptide~~ to vectorize active substances, ~~said moiety of said linear peptide being made up of at least five successive amino acids of SEQ. ID NO: 23,~~ wherein said isolated peptide is devoid of a disulphide bond and wherein said isolated peptide comprises the sequence: Arg-Arg-Leu-Ser-Tyr-Ser-Arg-Arg-Arg-Phe (SEQ ID NO: 23).

Claim 19: (previously presented): The isolated linear peptide of claim 18, wherein the antibiotic peptide is a β-stranded antibiotic peptide.

Claim 20: (currently amended): A method for vectoring an active substance using a linear peptide having a sequence of which if SEQ. ID NO. :23 ~~or a moiety of said linear peptide~~ to vectorize active substances, ~~said moiety of said linear peptide being made up of at least five successive amino acids of SEQ. ID. NO. 23~~ , wherein said active substance is selected from the group consisting of ~~peptides,~~ polypeptides, antibodies, nucleic acids, oligonucleotides and chemical molecules, and said linear peptide ~~or said moiety of said linear peptide made up of at least five successive amino acids~~

of SEQ. ID NO. 23 is devoid of disulphide bonds, said disulphide bonds being removed, replaced by another amino acid or wherein one or more cysteines in said peptide or said moiety of said linear peptide made up of at least five successive amino acids of SEQ. ID No. 23 is blocked at the SH group level, said method comprising the steps of:

(a) coupling said active substance to said linear peptide or to said moiety of said linear peptide made up of at least five successive amino acids of SEQ. ID No. 23 ; and

(b) conveying said active substances coupled with said linear peptide or with said moiety of said linear peptide made up of at least five successive amino acids of SEQ. ID No. 23 to a target for vectoring, said target being selected from the group consisting of a particular cell compartment, a particular cell type, and a particular organ.
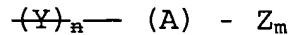
Claims 21 – 23. (cancelled)

Claim 24: (currently amended): A method of vectoring an active substance selected from the group consisting of peptides, polypeptides, antibodies, nucleic acids, oligonucleotides and chemical molecules using a linear peptide according to claim 18, the method comprising the steps of:

(a)   coupling said active substance to said linear peptide; and

(b)   conveying said active substance coupled with said linear peptide to a target for vectoring, said target being selected from the group consisting of a particular cell compartment, a particular cell type and a particular organ.

Claims 25 – 28. (cancelled)

Claim 29: (currently amended): A compound of formula (IV):

$$\text{(Y)}_n \text{---} \text{ (A) } - Z_m$$

wherein:

A is a peptide according to claim 18;

Z represents an active substance selected from the group consisting of ~~peptides,~~ polypeptides, antibodies, nucleic acids, oligonucleotides and chemical molecules;

~~Y represents a signal agent selected from the group consisting of oligopeptides, proteins, antibodies and chemical ligands, said signal agent having an affinity towards a particular cell type, cell compartment or a specific tissue or organ, or the ability to recognize a specific determinant present on a particular cell type, cell compartment or a specific tissue or organ;~~

~~N is 0 or 1;~~

m is 1 to 10.

Claim 30: (currently amended): The compound according to claim ~~25~~ 37, wherein at least one of the active substances (Z) is attached by a covalent bond to either the N-terminal or C-terminal ends ~~or at the primary amino groups carried by the side-chains of the lysines~~ of linear peptide (A).
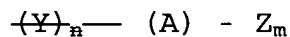
Claims 31 - 32. (cancelled)

Claim 33: (currently amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising as active ingredient at least one compound of formula (IV) according to claim 37, <u>optionally associated with an acceptable vehicle or carrier</u>.

Claim 34: (previously presented): A diagnostic agent comprising at least one compound of formula (IV) according to claim 37.

Claims 35 – 36. (cancelled)

Claim 37: (currently amended) A compound of the formula (IV):

$$\cancel{(Y)_n} - (A) - Z_m$$

wherein:

A represents a linear peptide having a sequence of which is SEQ. ID NO: 23 ~~or a moiety of said linear peptide made up of at least five successive amino acids of SEQ. ID NO. 23~~;

Z represents an active substance selected from the group consisting of ~~peptides,~~ polypeptides, antibodies, nucleic acids, oligonucleotides and chemical molecules;

~~Y represents a signal agent selected from the group consisting of oligopeptides, proteins, antibodies and chemical ligands, said signal agent having an affinity towards a particular cell type, cell compartment or a specific tissue or organ, or the ability to recognize a specific determinant present on a~~

~~particular cell type, cell compartment or a specific tissue or organ;~~

~~N is 0 or 1;~~

m is 1 to 10.

38. (currently amended) A compound according to claim 37 wherein said chemical molecules are selected from the group consisting of anti-tumorals, antivirals, ~~anti-inflammatories,~~ and antibacterials ~~agents preventing the degradation of organs and/or tissues~~.